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*A Thorburn Garden
for a family of six*



1913

J. M. Thorburn & Co.
53 Barclay Street New York

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by

J. M. Thorburn & Co.

53 Barclay Street
New York

*About
your land*

IN planning this little book, it was our earnest endeavor to give you real helpful advice in the planning and planting of your vegetable garden.

Let us begin with a few words about your land.

In most instances amateur gardeners have very little room for selection. And this is especially true in the case of the suburbanite.

But to the few favored ones who may have a choice of different locations, or with whom the kitchen garden plot is an all-important factor in the selection of a new home, let us suggest: that you have your land sloping, open to the south, and somewhat protected on the north and west.

The sloping land insures good drainage, providing you do not run the rows up and down hill—in which case you will find at the bottom of the slope a bed of representative vegetables where the seeds have been washed by heavy rains.

A southern exposure means that the vegetables receive the warmth of the sun for a maximum portion of each day.

And the protection, which may consist of trees, or if you are nearer to the city, houses, will afford an excellent means of materially reducing the velocity of high winds.

You have possibly already learned that the combination of

*The
necessity of
protection*

*Treating
stiff soil*

wind and rain has many a time proven disastrous to gardens.

The soil should be naturally rich and friable—a sandy loam being assuredly the most suitable.

If you should be so unfortunate as to have stiff soil, it may be mellowed gradually by the free use of stable manure and if convenient the addition of sand.

Underdraining will be of material aid if the land is inclined to be wet.

A dark colored soil, or one endowed with a goodly portion of decayed vegetable matter will produce the earliest and best crops.

If the soil be shallow, it should be deepened gradually by plowing or spading an inch or two deeper each year, but not all at once by trenching or sub-soiling, unless manure and money be both plentiful.

Too sandy a soil may be greatly improved by adding vegetable mould from the woods.

*Trees in
a garden*

The roots of large trees should never be allowed to encroach on any part of the garden; though we do not want you to infer from this that trees are detrimental to a garden at all times. For as we remarked before, they make an extremely effective protection on the north and west.

To secure the best vegetables, a liberal amount of plant food should be incorporated with the soil. Both stable manure and

commercial fertilizer should be used if possible—the manure and fertilizer supplying such humus, nitrogen, potash, and phosphoric acid as may be lacking in the ground.

Crops that are “rowed” may be further accelerated by two or three side dressings of fertilizer.

THEN comes the planning of your garden—to many the most interesting part, for then do we see things as they should be, not as they are.

Get a fairly accurate measurement of the space you have available and scale it on paper, say one quarter inch to each foot.

In no part of this country is land so lowly held that any part of it should be wilfully wasted. The greater majority of amateur gardeners do attempt to get the most out of their land; but with them “getting the most out of the land” means merely sowing the seeds in closer proximity.

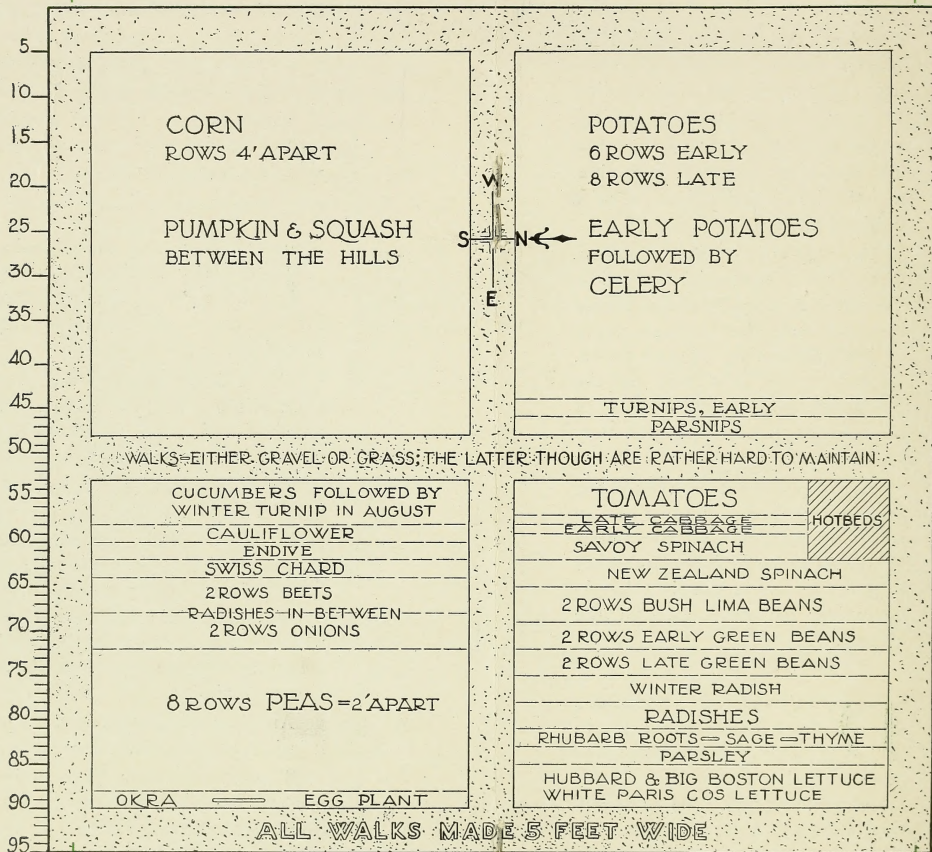
And instead of maximum crops it is just the reverse.

The only sure way to economize space is by practicing “crop rotation;” that is by planting, say for instance, the celery in the same ground that the early potatoes or July peas occupied earlier in the season. Also following up the green beans with turnips.

With lettuce and radish, you may have practically a continued

*Planning
your garden*

*Crop
rotation*



Garden Plan = 95 x 100 Feet
J.M. Thorburn & Co.

succession by planting in alternate rows every ten days or two weeks.

Then, too, squash should be planted between the hills of corn—and for pumpkin the same applies.

Radishes may be planted between onions and beets, for they will be out of the way a long time ere the beets and onions require cultivation.

Another point—onion seeds are of very slow germination and unless the rows are very carefully staked it often occurs that you lose track of just where they happen to be. Then mayhap you tear up the ground again and sow the seeds of some other vegetable in the very same spot.

A very excellent plan of getting around this is by planting radish seeds in the row with the onions. By the time the radishes are ready to pull the onions are just barely beginning to come through the ground.

DIFFERENT vegetables must necessarily cater to different likes, but we have made up a list of the most sought kinds, together with a brief description of each. A garden containing all of these would be fairly replete with the good things of gardening.

Opposite each vegetable is the quantity that would be required for a garden such as planned on the preceding page—for a family of six. The prices are also shown.

*Planting
Onion seeds*

*The
most-liked
vegetables*

**The best of
everything**

- BEANS**—*Green Podded*. Early . . . Use 1 pint
Green Podded. Late . . . Use 1 quart
Dwarf Wax Use 1 quart
Bush Limas Use 1 quart
- BEETS**. *Dark Egyptian*. An exceptionally
delicious early sort. Dark blood color. Per
ounce 15 cents. Use 2 ounces
- CABBAGE**—*Early Jersey Wakefield*. Undoubt-
edly the finest strain of this most popular
variety. The heads are extremely solid, pyra-
midal in shape and with very little outside
foliage. Per packet 10 cents. Use 1 packet
Thorburn's M. G. Private Stock Flat Dutch.
An immense late sort. Very extensively
grown. Per packet 10 cents. Use 1 packet
- CARROTS**—*Half Long Stump-Rooted*. One of
the most widely grown. Extremely productive.
Per ounce 15 cents. Use 1 ounce
- CAULIFLOWER**—*Thorburn's Snowball*. Extra
early. The best for forcing under glass or for
the open ground. Our strain of this sort is
unequalled. Per packet 25 cents. Use 1 packet
- CELERY**—*Improved White Plume*. Very early.
Has naturally white or light foliage and re-
quires but little banking up to blanch. Per
packet 10 cents. Use 1 packet
Fin de Siecle. This is the largest, hardiest,
and best keeping Winter celery. It is crisp
and solid. Per packet 10 cents. Use 1 packet
- CORN**—*Golden Bantam*. Early. A wondrously
sweet and tender variety with *yellow* kernels
that is gaining in popularity every day. Per
pint 15 cents. Use 1 packet
Country Gentleman. Late. This sort was
first introduced by us in 1888 and still remains
unexcelled in its class. Very sweet and tender.
Per pint 15 cents Use 1 pint
- CUCUMBERS**—*Thorburn's Noroton Selected*
White Spine. Solid in flesh, fine-grained,
tender and delicious flavor. Vigorous, healthy
grower. Very early. A splendid sort for the
home garden and absolutely without an equal
for market. Per packet 10 cents. Use 1 packet
- ENDIVE**—*Green Curled Winter*. A standard
sort for Fall and Winter crop. Per ounce 15
cents. Use ½ ounce
- EGG PLANT**—*Improved N. Y. Spineless*. Large,
oval in shape; deep purple. Early and pro-
ductive. Per packet 10 cents. Use 1 packet
- LEEK**—*Thorburn's Best Large Flag*. Very
hardy and productive. Rather large. Per
ounce 20 cents. Use 1 ounce
- LETTUCE**—*Big Boston*. Early. Fine for forc-
ing or open ground. This popular sort is too
well-known to require lengthy description.
Per packet 5 cents. Use 1 packet
Hubbard Market. Medium, early. Very
large and solid heads. Per packet 5 cents.
. Use 1 packet
White Paris Cos. Of upright growth. Per
packet 5 cents. Use 1 packet
- ONIONS**—*Large White Globe*. Very large.
This is the famous Southport strain. Per
packet 10 cents. Use 1 packet
Large Yellow Globe. Southport strain. The
finest large yellow. Per packet 5 cents.
. Use 1 packet

*The best of
everything*

- OKRA—*Dwarf Green Prolific*. Short thick pods. Per ounce 10 cents. . . . Use ½ ounce
- PARSLEY—*Thorburn's Extra Curled*. A far superior sort. Per packet 5 cents. Use 1 packet
- PARSNIP—*Thorburn Hollow Crown*. The market gardeners favorite strain. Per ounce 10 cents. . . . Use 1 ounce
- PEAS—*Alaska*. Extra early. This is one of the earliest blue peas. Quite productive. Per quart 30 cents. . . . Use 1 quart
- Gradus*, Extra Early. Pods very large and filled with large wrinkled peas of finest quality. Per quart 45 cents. . . . Use 1 quart
- Telephone*, Late. Enormous pods of best quality peas. Per quart 35 cents. . . . Use 1 quart
- American Wonder*. Early Dwarf; very productive. Quart 30 cents. . . . Use 1 quart
- POTATOES—*Noroton Beauty*. The finest and most productive of the extra early potatoes. Handsome in appearance and uniform in shape. Per peck 75 cents. . . . Use 1 peck
- Carman No. 1*, Late. First introduced by us in 1894. Per peck 65 cents. . . . Use 1 peck
- PUMPKIN—*Large Cheese*, Flat. The best variety for family use. Per packet 5 cents. Use 1 packet
- SQUASH—*Summer Crookneck*, Yellow fruit. Best for summer. Per packet 5 cents. . . . Use 1 packet
- RADISH—*Scarlet Turnip*, Early. The French favorite. Per ounce 10 cents. Use 1 ounce
- Scarlet Turnip White Tip*, Very early. For frames or outdoor. Per ounce 10 cents. . . . Use 1 ounce
- Scarlet Globe Shaped*, Rich Scarlet, very round. Deliciously tender and crisp. Per ounce 10 cents. . . . Use 1 ounce
- SPINACH—*Round Viroflay*, Early. Very large thick green leaves. The favorite market gardeners sort for Spring or Fall sowing. Per ounce 10 cents Use 1 ounce
- New Zealand Summer*—Does well in hot Summer weather. Per ounce 10 cents Use 1 ounce
- SWISS CHARD—*Giant Lucullus*. Tender and of fine flavor, Per ounce 15 cents. Use 1 ounce
- TOMATO—*Earliana*. Extra early, smooth, bright red. Per packet 15 cents. Use 1 packet
- Stone*, Late. Very large, perfectly smooth. Per packet 5 cents. . . . Use 1 packet
- TURNIP—*Globe Shaped Red Top*. A standard sort. Per ounce 10 cents. Use 1 ounce
- Thorburn Family Rutabaga*—Finest Quality. Per packet 5 cents. . . . Use 1 packet
- THYME—Used as a seasoning. Per packet 10 cents. . . . Use 1 packet
- SAGE—A culinary herb. Also used in medicine. Per packet 5 cents. . . . Use 1 packet
- RHUBARB—Put in about 6 plants.
- WINTER RADISH—*Long Black Spanish*. The most popular. Per ounce 10 cents. . . . Use 1 ounce

*Cultural
directions*

Perhaps you will not want to grow all of these vegetables. Our plan, you will find, can easily be altered to accommodate any number. Try it.

TELLING you how to grow each one of these vegetables we believe is totally unnecessary for you have no doubt learned before this time that the cultural directions in our catalog are exceptionally comprehensive and that they contain many a hint.

If by any chance you happen to mislay your copy of Thorburn's Seed Catalog, by all means drop us a line. We will be only too happy to know that you really are interested in high quality seeds—and another one will be sent you by return mail.

*Your
problems*

After, when your problems come up (if you are a beginner you *will* have little puzzlers at the start) don't forget that we maintain a special department just for answering questions and that we will be glad to help you out. Remember that at some time or other we all have to be beginners.

You have a Flower Garden, haven't you?

—or at any rate you *intend* to have one.

If there is any doubt in your mind as to just what you want why not send for one of our flower seed collections? You will find them all listed on page 113 of our new 1914 catalog.

Perhaps the most popular collection in this lot is the assortment of Annual Dwarf Flower Seeds—twelve different kinds—selling for 50c.

Here it is—

Asters, Mixed
Candytuft, Mixed
Convolvulus, Dwarf, Mixed
Eschscholtzia, Mixed
Larkspur, Dwarf Rocket, Mixed
Marigold, Dwarf French, Mixed
Mignonette
Nasturtium, Dwarf, Mixed
Phlox Drummondii, Mixed
Portulaca, Single, Mixed
Sweet Alyssum
Zinnia, Dwarf, Mixed

One packet of each—50 cents.

Hadn't you better say in your letter ordering the vegetable seeds "I am also enclosing 50c. for flower seed collection No. 93000?"

J. M. Thorburn & Co.

Established 1802

53 Barclay St. New York